

Amendment No. 1 to HB2994

Montgomery
Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 2893

House Bill No. 2994*

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and by substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 70, is amended by adding the following language as new sections:

49-6-7004. The department of education shall establish in the school system with the most schools in the achievement school district (ASD) a four-year pilot program to increase parent involvement in schools as set forth in §§ 49-6-7005 - 49-6-7007. The pilot program shall begin with the 2012-2013 school year and shall be limited to schools operated by the ASD that serve grades K-3 or any combination thereof. In the second year of the pilot program, the office of research and education accountability in the office of the comptroller of the treasury shall study the program and make recommendations to the department as to changes and improvements that could be made to the program which would increase parental involvement. At the conclusion of the four-year pilot program, the office of research and education accountability shall evaluate the program as to whether it should be continued and expanded. The office of research and education accountability shall report its findings and conclusions to the department and to the education committees of the senate and the house of representatives by July 1, 2016.

49-6-7005. As used in §§ 49-6-7004 - 49-6-7007, unless the context requires otherwise, "parent":

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(1) Means a parent whose parental rights have not been terminated, or a person appointed by a court to make decisions regarding the support, care, education, health, or welfare of a child; and

(2) Does not mean a guardian ad litem or the state; and
49-6-7006. Any current information packets, forms, videos or other means used for sharing information with a parent by a school in the achievement school district that is in the pilot program under § 49-6-7004 shall include the following information:

(1) Expectations of parents concerning their responses to requests for meetings and communications from the school or teachers;

(2) Expectations of parents concerning their children's academic work, including time set aside for daily homework and reading, nightly checks of homework completion and preparation for tests, early preparation of assigned school projects, signatures on required forms, and checks of the contents of their children's school backpacks;

(3) Expectations of parents concerning their children's physical readiness for school, including provision for adequate night-time sleep, necessary school supplies, meals, and immunizations and medical care; provided, that necessary school supplies may be obtained through various organizations and meals may be obtained through the school's free or reduced-priced meal program if certain qualifications are met; and

(4) Expectations of parents concerning their children's school attendance.

49-6-7007.

(a) Schools in the pilot project shall issue to parents whose children are in grades kindergarten through three (K-3) blank parent involvement report cards, when the children are given their report cards.

(b) Each parent whose child is in the pilot project shall self-evaluate the parent's involvement in the child's education and assign to himself or herself a grade of excellent, satisfactory, needs improvement or unsatisfactory on each of the following:

(1) The parent's response to requests by the school or the child's teachers for meetings or communication;

(2) The parent's efforts in ensuring that the child completed homework assignments, was prepared for tests and otherwise was academically ready to learn;

(3) The parent's efforts in ensuring the child's physical preparation for school; and

(4) The parent's efforts in ensuring the child was on time for school and was absent only when excused.

(c) The report card shall also contain space in which the parent can report in writing on other efforts by the parent to be involved in the parent's child's education and to express the means by which the parent intends to address areas that the parent has evaluated as less than satisfactory or to ask for help in improving the parent's involvement.

(d) The achievement school district and the schools in the pilot project shall create appropriate incentives to encourage parents to self-evaluate and return the parent involvement report cards to the schools.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.